



## Technology permits experts to record, reuse knowledge

by **Fran Crumb, Information Directorate**

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate recently awarded a \$8,504,100 contract to CyCorp, Inc. of Austin, Texas, for research to support the rapid development and application of large knowledge bases by individuals who are not experts in knowledge base development.

The 41-month agreement, “KRAKEN: Knowledge-Rich Acquisition of Knowledge from Experts who are Non-Logicians,” is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency of Arlington, Va., as part of the organization’s Rapid Knowledge Formation Program.

“Today, knowledge base development requires specialized knowledge engineers to work hand-in-hand with a subject

matter expert to encode knowledge in the knowledge base,” said Carla L. Burns, program manager in the directorate’s Information Technology Division. “CyCorp will investigate, develop and demonstrate technology that enables distributed teams of subject matter experts to enter and modify knowledge directly and easily, without the need for specialized training in knowledge base techniques.”

“Subject matter experts will be able to input information on the target domain concepts, relationships and rules into the knowledge base,” Burns said. “This technology will permit scientific, technical and military experts to encode massive amounts of knowledge into reusable knowledge bases for application in many different tasks.” @